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OCTOBER. NOT FOR LIAISON. NO INDEX. (EGG-1759)

FILED : 201549Z.

IW COMMENT: CA, CA/PEG, CA/PROP, CI, CI/OPS, DO

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INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION CABLE

DATE 20 OCTOBER 1971
IN 450815
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The following intelligence information, transmitted from a CIA Field Station, requires review within the Clandestine Service before being released outside the Agency. Pending results of this review, a copy is being provided for your advance information.

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GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

COUNTRY: WEST GERMANY/SOUTH VIETNAM/NORTH VIETNAM

DOI : 19 OCTOBER 1971

SUBJECT: CONTINUED INDIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN PROVISIONAL
REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT (PRG) OF SOUTH VIETNAM
AND WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT

ACQ : GERMANY, HAMBURG (20 OCTOBER 1971) EGG-1759

SOURCE : A WEST GERMAN COMMERCIAL EMPLOYEE WITH GOOD CONTACTS
IN LEFTIST CIRCLES IN HAMBURG. HE HAS REPORTED
RELIABLY FOR SEVERAL YEARS WITHIN THE LIMITS OF HIS
ACCESS. HE OBTAINED THIS INFORMATION FROM AN INDIVIDUAL
WHO HAS BEEN IN CLOSE CONTACT WITH FRANK WERKMEISTER
IN PLANNING "INDOCHINA HEARINGS" IN WEST GERMANY.

1. (FIELD COMMENT: TDCSDB-315/06109-71 REPORTED NEGOTIATIONS
BETWEEN WEST GERMAN AUTHORITIES AND THE PRG FOR THE RELEASE OF
PETER SCHRADER - ROTTMERS, A WEST GERMAN AID
OFFICIAL CAPTURED BY THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT IN SOUTH
VIETNAM IN AUGUST 1971. FRANK WERKMEISTER, MEMBER

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(classification)

(dissem. controls)

OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL INITIATIVE FOR VIETNAM SOLIDARITY (IIVS), WAS REPORTED ACTING AS INTERMEDIARY IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS THROUGH CONTACTS IN THE WEST GERMAN TRADE UNION FEDERATION (DEUTSCHER GEWERKSCHAFT BUND - DGB). THE PRG REPORTEDLY OFFERED THE RELEASE OF SCHRADER-ROTTMERS CONDITIONAL ON THE ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO A PRG TRADE UNION DELEGATION TO ATTEND VARIOUS "INDOCHINA HEARINGS" SCHEDULED THROUGHOUT WEST GERMANY FROM 19 TO 30 OCTOBER 1971.) ACCORDING TO WERKMEISTER, THE WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTRY HAS REFUSED TO ISSUE ANY VISAS UNLESS SCHRADER-ROTTMERS IS REQUIRED TO REPORT TO THE WEST GERMAN EMBASSY IN SAIGON IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS RELEASE.

2. WERKMEISTER BELIEVES THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WISHES TO PREVENT SCHRADER-ROTTMERS IMMEDIATE RETURN TO GERMANY TO PARTICIPATE WITH PRG REPRESENTATIVES IN THE "INDO-CHINA HEARINGS", THUS DENYING IIVS-ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS MAXIMUM PROPAGANDA EXPLOITATION OF THEIR ROLE IN SCHRADER-ROTTMERS' RELEASE. (FIELD COMMENT: IN AN IIVS PRESS RELEASE DATED 28 SEPTEMBER 1971, WERKMEISTER CLAIMED THAT DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN NEGOTIATING SCHRADER-ROTTMERS' RELEASE WOULD HAVE BEEN OBIATED BY THE

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EXISTENCE OF A PRG INFORMATION OFFICE IN WEST GERMANY. THE DEMAND FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRG INFORMATION OFFICE HAS BEEN A MAJOR PROPAGANDA THEME IN RECENT LITERATURE OF THE VARIOUS LEFTIST ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE HEARINGS.)

3. WERKMEISTER CLAIMS THAT OVER 300 DGB EMPLOYEES SUPPORT THE ROLE OF THE DGB IN PRESSURING THE WEST GERMAN GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT THE PRG'S OFFER FOR SCHRADER-ROTTMERS RELEASE. IIVS-AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS ARE ATTEMPTING TO BRING ADDITIONAL PRESSURE ON THE GOVERNMENT THROUGH PRESS RELEASES DESCRIBING THE SCHRADER-ROTTMERS CASE.

4. MADAME NGUYEN THI BINH, FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE PRG AND HEAD OF THE PRG DELEGATION TO THE PARIS PEACE TALKS, INFORMED WERKMEISTER ON 17 OCTOBER 1971 OF HER CONTINUED INTENTION TO ATTEND THE "HEARING" SCHEDULED IN HAMBURG FOR 22 OCTOBER 1971. AN UNIDENTIFIED COLLEAGUE OF SCHRADER-ROTTMERS IS ALSO SCHEDULED TO ATTEND THE HAMBURG GATHERING.

5. FIELD DISSEM: NONE (SENT ☐)

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REPORT CLASS SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEM

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